

## REMARKS

Claims 1-92 are pending in this application. Claims 1-62 and 77-92 are allowed. Claims 63-76 are rejected. Claims 63, 65, 67, 70, 72 and 73 are currently amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 63-69 and 71-77 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In particular, the Office asserts that the claimed invention is not actually an apparatus, but rather a computer program. In support of that position, the Office cites the Specification as teaching a computer program. However, the specification also describes the invention as “apparatus,”<sup>1</sup> and in particular describes a “key distributor”<sup>2</sup> in which the invention may be embodied. The key distributor is illustrated in Figure 5, and described in detail at pp. 5-7. Claim 63 has therefore been amended to recite that the apparatus executes computer readable program code comprising the recited modules. Claims 65, 67, 72 and 73 have been amended to be consistent with claim 63 in view of the changes. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 63-69 and 71-77 under 35 U.S.C. §101 is therefore requested.

Claim 70 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Office asserts that the term “the receiver” lacks antecedent basis. Claim 70 has been amended accordingly, and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

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<sup>1</sup> Page 1, line 20

<sup>2</sup> Page 1, line 22

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. Should there remain unresolved issues that require action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned, Applicants' Attorney, at 978-264-4001 (X305) so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date

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